

Agency 69 - Nebraska Arts Council

Statutory Authority:

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: The Nebraska Arts Council (NAC) operates under Section 82-3093 to 82-315 and Sections 82-317 to 82-333 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes (reissue 1981).

AGENCY PURPOSE: The enabling legislation for the NAC outlines the purposes of the NAC as follows: 1) stimulate and encourage throughout the state the study and presentation of the performing and fine arts, public interest and participation therein; 2) To make such surveys as may be deemed advisable to public and private institutions within the state engaged in artistic and cultural activities, and make recommendations; 3) take steps to encourage public interest; 4) encourage and assist freedom of artistic expression.

Vision Statement:

The Nebraska Arts Council strengthens Nebraska's economy, improves students' cognitive learning skills, and enhances our quality of life. In addition, our strengths are built by the distinct recognition and celebration of Nebraska's diversity, our understanding of the global arts network, and their relationship to Nebraska's children. Current research validates how important the arts are in our children's education and in economic prosperity, the complex interface between arts and technology, and the ways in which the arts augment our communities' livability through cultural and educational resources, enhancing the Good Life in Nebraska.

Mission Statement:

MISSION: The Nebraska Arts Council is a state agency that promotes, cultivates, and sustains the arts for the people of Nebraska.

The Nebraska Arts Council carries out its mission through four programs:

1. Development of the Arts (Prog. 326) is the administrative program for the operations of the agency.
2. Aid to the Arts (Prog. 327) includes the agency's special initiatives and grants programs for cultural arts activities across the state.
3. Humanities Aid (Prog. 328) was established by the Legislature to provide funding to the Nebraska Humanities Council on a matching basis.
4. The Nebraska Cultural Preservation Endowment Fund (Prog. 329) was established by the Legislature to ensure there is a stable cultural climate in our state for future generations.

Goals:

The NAC's goals to implement its mission:

1. To build creative and proactive leadership in the arts.
2. To forge partnerships that create and expand opportunities for the arts.
3. To cultivate financial, technological and informational resources needed to sustain the arts in Nebraska.
4. To establish the arts as basic to education and lifelong learning.
5. To use the arts as a catalyst for understanding among cultures.
6. To advocate for increased awareness and access to the arts.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY02	Approp FY03	Request FY04	Recom FY04	Request FY05	Recom FY05
General Fund	1,394,435	1,229,822	1,829,510	1,120,140	1,712,525	1,129,127
Cash Fund	86,052	1,525,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000
Federal Fund	669,610	627,900	627,900	634,198	627,900	639,281
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Agency	2,150,097	3,382,722	3,957,410	3,254,338	3,840,425	3,268,408

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Program 326 - Development Of The Arts

Program Objectives:

Program 326, Development of the Arts provides the resources to carry out the goals and objectives of the Nebraska Arts Council (NAC). The NAC emphasizes visibility, responsiveness, and taking the leadership role in facilitating projects or partnerships that benefit the state of Nebraska by utilizing the arts.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY02	Approp FY03	Request FY04	Recom FY04	Request FY05	Recom FY05
General Fund	490,162	534,563	607,204	494,176	565,219	503,163
Cash Fund	20,705	25,000	0	0	0	0
Federal Fund	235,042	143,385	143,385	149,683	143,385	154,766
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	745,909	702,948	750,589	643,859	708,604	657,929

Performance Measures:

Development of the Arts is the administrative program for the operations of the agency. The principal workload of the agency relates to the intake and processing of grant applications. Secondary tasks relate to support for agency services and initiatives, and to maintaining agency records, processing payments to grantees and vendors, arranging travel for staff, Council and grant review panelists, and complying with DAS and other state government regulations.

Development of the Arts also includes publications, such as the Flatwater Arts Companion, and support for agency events.

Description	FY02 Actual	FY03 Current	FY04 Request	FY05 Request
applications received/processed	499	269 to date	510	520
grant and artist review panels held	7	4 to date	8	8
volunteer review panelists	34	26 to date	46	50
outreach contacts (organizations)	150	40 to date	165	180
training participants	110	45 to date	115	120
Flatwater newsletters distributed	12,000	0 to date	18,000 online	18,000 online
artists on NAC rosters	144	137	145	145
total # of grants awarded	379	191 to date	385	400
schools served by NAC grants	150	120 to date	160	170
NAC grants serving youth	250	175 to date	265	275

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Program 327 - Aid To The Arts

Program Objectives:

Program 327, Aid to the Arts, describes the agency's granting program, which provides funding for: arts projects by Nebraska nonprofit organizations, residencies in schools or community settings, and for operating support to nonprofit arts organizations across the state. Aid to the Arts funds include both legislative appropriations and grant monies from the National Endowment for the Arts. The agency competes with the arts agencies of the other 50 states for grants from the NEA.

Current research validates that the arts are increasingly important in our children's education, boost our communities economically, have a complex interface with technology, and allow our communities to enjoy cultural and educational resources that enhance Nebraska's Good Life.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY02	Approp FY03	Request FY04	Recom FY04	Request FY05	Recom FY05
General Fund	785,293	602,306	1,097,306	542,306	1,022,306	542,306
Cash Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fund	434,568	484,515	484,515	484,515	484,515	484,515
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1,219,861	1,086,821	1,581,821	1,026,821	1,506,821	1,026,821

Performance Measures:

Aid to the Arts describes the agency's granting program, which provides funding for arts projects by Nebraska nonprofit organizations, for residencies in schools or community settings, and for operating support to nonprofit arts organizations across the state.

Aid to the Arts funds include both legislative appropriations and grant monies from the National Endowment for the Arts. The NAC competes with the other 49 state arts agencies for grants from the NEA.

Performance measures for this program relate to services provided to the State of Nebraska and its citizens through the grants programs.

Description	FY02 Actual	FY03 Current	FY04 Request	FY05 Request
Total Amount of Grants awarded	\$1,445,521	\$902,341 to date	\$1,097,306	\$1,097,306
# of arts education grants	129	45 to date	135	135
# of Multicultural Initiative grants	64	20 to date	68	70
# of Basic Support grants	65	61	62	62
# of project-related grants	124	65 to date	125	127
ind. benefiting from funded projects	642,679	650,000 est.	660,000	670,000
youth benefiting from funded projects	214,193	215,000 est.	215,250	215,500
volunteers for funded projects	27,070	28,000 est.	28,100	28,200
artists involved in funded projects	8,187	8,200 est.	8,220	8,240
schools served by NAC grants	106	110 est.	115	120

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Program 328 - Nebraska Humanities Council

Program Objectives:

Aid to Humanities is the program through which the agency acts as the agent for Legislative support of the Nebraska Humanities Council. The Legislature expressed a desire to provide this support, and designated the NAC as the agent. The NAC must annually verify the Humanities Council has matched its state grant.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY02	Approp FY03	Request FY04	Recom FY04	Request FY05	Recom FY05
General Fund	118,980	92,953	125,000	83,658	125,000	83,658
Cash Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	118,980	92,953	125,000	83,658	125,000	83,658

Performance Measures:

"Capitol Forum" is a curriculum to engage high school students in exploring political, philosophical, and economic dimensions of U.S. foreign policy.

"Choices for the 21st Century" is a discussion series offered through libraries that involves Nebraskans in debates about 21st Century U.S. foreign policy.

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Program 329 - Nebraska Arts And Humanities

Program Objectives:

Program 329 was created as a result of the creation of the Nebraska Cultural Preservation Endowment act, LB799, which was signed into law in 1998.

This bill, as is reflected in Sections 82-330 through 82-333, established a trust fund in the state treasury for the purpose of stabilizing the state's cultural climate. The Nebraska Arts Council administers and distributes the Nebraska Arts and Humanities Cash Fund, which results from the earnings of the trust fund. The Nebraska Arts Council and the Nebraska Humanities Council may draw down the earnings upon proving a dollar-for-dollar match. These funds support programs that stabilize the state's cultural climate.

Earnings from the fund were significantly lower in 2001 and 2002 due to conditions in the stock market.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY02	Approp FY03	Request FY04	Recom FY04	Request FY05	Recom FY05
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Fund	65,347	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	65,347	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000

Performance Measures:

Earnings are available for draw down from the Nebraska Cultural Preservation Endowment as the NAC and NHC can provide new matching funds from other sources. Both agencies have as a priority the stabilization of the state's cultural climate. Performance measures relate to the increased cultural activity supported by each agency through funds generated from the Nebraska Cultural Preservation Endowment and accessed via the Nebraska Arts and Humanities fund. Earnings from the NCPE were significantly lower in 2001 and 2002 due to stock market conditions.